February - August 2004

ACADIAN CULTURAL CENTER -**LAFAYETTE**

501 Fisher Road 337-232-0789 Open daily 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (Closed December 25 and Mardi Gras, February 24)

All events are open to the general public. Events are free unless noted otherwise.

Daily Programs

Ranger's Choice Program - Daily 10:45 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. Ranger talks on various topics.

Special Events

Louisiana Purchase in the History of the United States of America Exhibit - through June 30. Traces events leading to the Louisiana Purchase through reproduced maps and documents and original French and American stamps.

Mardi Gras Activities - Weekends in February through Mardi Gras, February 24. Display on Mardi Gras history, storytelling, hands-on activities, demonstrations of making masks and capuchons (traditional Cajun Mardi Gras costumes).

Women's History Month -March. Call for events and activities.

National Park Week - April 17-25. Test your knowledge of the national parks with a trivia quiz and films from National Park Service sites.

Wetlands Day and National Wetlands Month - Local, state, and federal agencies present information, science, and arts and crafts projects to share the importance of wetlands conversation, endangered species, and wetland environments. Call for dates and events.

Especially for Kids

Scouting Badge Camp - Sundays March 21 and 28. Day-long camp for scouting groups to earn badges in culture and history. Call 337-232-0789 ext. 17 or 18 for information and to register.

Fishing Clinics - Saturdays in June. For children 12 to 15. Basics of fishing including casting tips, water safety, and regulations. Registration required; fee for materials. Call for registration and information.

Animal Tracks along the Bayou - Discover wetlands animals through their pelts and tracks and learn to make track castings. Call for information.

Cultural Camp - Weeklong day camps featuring demonstrations, hands-on activities, and special programs to introduce children to south Louisiana's cultures and resources. Registration required and is on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 337-232-0789 ext. 17 for registration and information.

For children 6-8, camp runs 8:00 a.m.-noon. Fee \$25. Camp weeks are June 7-11 and July 5-9.

For children 9-11, camp runs 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Fee \$50. Camp weeks are June 14-18, July 19-23, and August 2-6.



Fun and adventure weren't hard to find at last year's cultural camp at Lafayette's Acadian Cultural Center.

WETLANDS ACADIAN CULTURAL CENTER THIBODAUX 314 St. Mary Street 985-448-1375 Open Monday 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Sunday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (Closed December 25 and Mardi Gras, February 24)

All events are open to the general public. Events are free unless noted otherwise.

Monday Night Music

Cajun Music Jam Session - Mondays 5:30-7:00 p.m. Live musical performances by local musicians.

Boat Tours

Bayou Tour by Boat to Madewood Plantation - Sundays and Mondays 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Cruise Bayou Lafourche and visit Madewood Plantation for a tour and lunch. \$26 per person.

Bayou Tour by Boat to E.D. White Historic Site - Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.-noon. \$10 per person.

Especially for Kids

History Camp - June 21-25, July 5-9, July 19-23, and August 2-6. For 10 and 11-year-olds. Fee \$25. Call for information and registration.

PRAIRIE ACADIAN CULTURAL CENTER - EUNICE 250 West Park Avenue 337-457-7700 Open Tuesday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m.-6 p.m. (Closed December 25)

All events are open to the general public. Events are free unless noted otherwise.

Saturday Programs

Folklife Demonstrations – Saturdays 3:00-6:00 p.m. Cooking, quilting, music, and dancing.

Liberty Theatre Rendez-vous des Cajuns – Saturdays 6:00-7:30 p.m. Live Cajun and zydeco music at the Liberty Theatre. Call 337-457-7389 for programming. Adults \$5, children 6-II \$3, children 5 and under free.

Free Lessons

Lessons in Accordion, Fiddle, Guitar, Dancing, and Cajun French – Tuesday evenings beginning in June. Call for more information.

Especially for Kids

Cultural Camp - June 21-25 and July 12-16. For 9 and 10-year-olds. Have fun learning about the history and cultures of southwest Louisiana's prairies. Call for information and registration.



Ranger-guided tours via traditional Louisiana boat provide a whole new perspective of life on the bayou. The tours are offered three times weekly at the Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center in Thibodaux.

FRENCH QUARTER VISITOR CENTER NEW ORLEANS 419 Decatur Street 504-589-2636 ext. 1 Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (Closed December 25 and Mardi Gras, February 24)

All events are open to the general public. Events are free unless noted otherwise.

Daily Programs

French Quarter Tour - Daily at 9:30 a.m. One-hour ranger-guided exploration of the French Quarter emphasizes the history and ethnic diversity that make New Orleans unique. Beginning at 9 a.m., 25 free tickets available on a first-come, first-served basis; each person wanting a ticket must be present.

Louisiana Purchase Program - II:00 a.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays through March. One-hour program with short walk to Historic New Orleans Collection. 25 free tickets available beginning at 9:00 a.m. on a first-come, first-served basis; each person wanting a ticket must be present.

Folklife Programs

Lundi Gras - Monday, February 23, 9:00 a.m.noon. In Woldenberg Park with the Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club. Living history demonstrations.

The Irish in New Orleans - Saturday, March 20, II:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Cooking demonstrations, music, and dancing.

Beat Rangers - Thursday, April 22, 2:00 p.m. Rangers share poetry, stories, music to celebrate National Park Week and Jazz Awareness Month. In cooperation with New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, where event will be held (916 N. Peters St.).

Louisiana Music, Food, Crafts - Wednesday, April 28. 11:00 a.m. Panorama Jazz Band; 12:20 p.m. Navy Big Band; 1:40 p.m. Zydeco; 3:00 p.m. Shades of Praise. In cooperation with New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park.

Who Are the Creoles? - Saturday, May 8, II:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Speaker, music, and food.

Fais-Do-Do - II:00 a.m.-Saturday, May 15, 3:30 p.m. Cajun music, dancing, food.

CHALMETTE BATTLEFIELD -CHALMETTE

8606 West St. Bernard Highway 504-281-0510 Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (Closed December 25 and Mardi Gras, February 24)

All events are open to the general public. Events are free unless noted otherwise.

Daily Programs

The Battle of New Orleans - Daily II:15 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. 15-minute talk presented near Visitor Center; coincides with arrival of *Creole Queen* riverboat.

Living History

A Journey through History - Living history demonstrations on Saturdays, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. February 28 - African-Americans in the Military

March 6 - Women in War

March 13 - Thundering Guns

March 20 - In Defense of Home and Family

March 27 - Redcoats and Dirty Shirts

Summer Days at the Malus-Beauregard House - Saturday and Sunday, August 21 and 22.

Special Events

Memorial Day Wreath-laying Ceremony at Chalmette Cemetery - Sunday, May 30, 12:30 p.m. In cooperation with Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3798. Volunteers needed to put out flags on Friday, May 28, and remove them on Tuesday, June 1.

Kick-Off Party for New Park Guidebook and National Park Week French Quarter Visitor Center Saturday, April 17 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Demonstrations of traditional local crafts set the stage for author Jan Arrigo as she discusses and signs her guide to the park, *Explore Jean Lafitte*, noon-2:00 p.m. The Eddie Dowling Jazz Band will wrap it all up with authentic New Orleans music 1:00-3:00 p.m.

BARATARIA PRESERVE -NEAR CROWN POINT 6588 Barataria Boulevard 504-589-2330 ext. 10 Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m (Closed December 25 and Mardi Gras, February 24)

All events are open to the general public. Events are free unless noted otherwise.

Daily Programs

Ranger-Guided Walks - 1:30 p.m. every Sunday-Friday, February-May. One-hour walk through the swamp along a boardwalk trail; check at visitor center for walk location.

Saturday Morning Programs

February 14 at 9:30 a.m. Canoe Trek March 13 at 8:00 a.m. Birdwatching Walk March 20 at 9:30 a.m. Canoe Trek March 27 at 9:30 am. Canoe Trek April 3 at 8:00 a.m. Birdwatching Walk April 10 at 9:30 a.m. Canoe Trek April 17 at 9:30 a.m. Canoe Trek May 8 at 8:00 a.m. Birdwatching Walk May 15 at 9:30 a.m. Canoe Trek

Birdwatching Walk - Ranger-led walk for beginning and intermediate birders ages 13-adult. Limited space; call for reservations.

Canoe Trek - Ranger-guided trek through preserve bayous and canals. Limited space; call for reservations and canoe rental information.

During the Full Moon

Wednesday, February 4, at 6:00 p.m. Moonlight Canoe

Thursday, February 5, at 6:00 p.m. Sunset Stroll Saturday, March 6, at 6:00 p.m. Moonlight Canoe Sunday, March 7, at 6:00 p.m. Sunset Stroll Saturday, April 3, at 6:30 p.m. Moonlight Canoe Sunday, April 4, at 6:30 p.m. Moonlight Canoe Monday, April 5, at 6:30 p.m. Sunset Stroll Sunday, May 2, at 7:00 p.m. Moonlight Canoe Monday, May 3, at 7:00 p.m. Sunset Stroll Wednesday, June 2, at 7:00 p.m. Sunset Stroll Friday, July 2, at 7:00 p.m. Sunset Stroll Friday, July 30, at 7:00 p.m. Sunset Stroll Saturday, August 28, at 7:00 p.m. Sunset Stroll

Sunset Stroll - Two-mile ranger-guided walk as the sun sets and the full moon rises. Limited space; call for reservations.

Moonlight Canoe Trek - Ranger-guided exploration of preserve waterways under the full moon. Limited space; call for reservations and canoe rental information.

Special Events

Barataria Preserve Volunteer Training - Saturday, March 6, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or Sunday, March 7, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Training session for spring program volunteers includes bird and wildflower identification, safety basics, and information on volunteer opportunities. Call to register.

Wild Iris Weekends - Saturdays and Sundays March 27 through April 18. Free shuttle bus between preserve parking lots and wildflower trails 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Wildflower walks at 1:30 p.m. on Bayou Coquille Trail.

Especially for Kids

Expanding Horizons Nature Programs - For children 6-12. Programs on Saturdays 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. on dates listed below. Free but limited space; call 504-589-2330 ext. 10 for reservations, on first day of month in which program is offered.

March 13 Wetlands Wonders
May 15 Insect Adventure

Earth Camp - Weeklong day camps for children 9-10 years old featuring hikes, nature activities, and special programs. 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Registration required and is on a first-come, first-served basis to the first 12 boys and first 12 girls per session. Applications available at preserve Visitor Center on Saturday, April 17, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Fee \$25. Call 504-589-2330 ext. 10 for information. Camp dates are July 12-16 and July 26-30.